Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims as shown below.

1. to 27. (Cancelled)

28. (New) A method for restructuring a pricing formula into a tree structure comprising:

identifying, in the pricing formula,

a price calculation operation to calculate a price from a price input variable,

a mathematical operation to calculate successive values of a changing value variable, and

a logical operation to conditionally perform an operation depending on a state of a logical operation input variable;

selecting, using a processing device, a converter node, a processing node, an ending node, and a decision node from a pre-stored library of generic nodes designed to be copied and assembled into the tree structure;

configuring the converter node, using the processing device, to store as parameters an initial input variable, the price input variable, and a unit conversion operation to convert the initial input variable to a unit of measurement compatible with the price input variable;

configuring the processing node to store as parameters the changing value variable, changed values of the changing value variables, and the mathematical operation;

configuring the decision node to store as parameters the logical function input variable and the logical operation;

configuring the ending node to store as parameters the price input variable and the price calculation operation; and

linking, through the processing device, each of the configured converter, processing, decision, and ending nodes to one of the other nodes to form the tree structure, an order of the

linking establishing a sequence in which an operation stored in a parameter of a respective node is executed, wherein the price calculation operation is executed last in the sequence to generate a net price.

29. (New) The method of claim 28, further comprising selecting a plurality of ending nodes storing a plurality of price calculation operations wherein each of the ending nodes are linked to different states of the logical operation input variable to apply a different price calculation operation depending on the state of the logical operation input variable.

30. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the unit conversion operation calculates an age of a file from an input variable specifying a creation date of the file.

31. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the unit conversion operation scales the intial input variable.

32. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the mathematical operation uses a current value of the changing value variable to calculate a new value of the changing value variable to replace the current value.

33. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the current value of the changing value variable is saved as a prior value prior to replacing the current value with the new value.

34. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein both the current value and the prior value are used to calculate the new value.

35. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the mathematical operation carries out an averaging of the changing value variable to calculate the new value.

36. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the mathematical operation carries out an averaging using a prior value of the changing value variable to calculate the new value.

37. (New) A device comprising a computer readable medium storing instructions that, after being executed by a processing device, cause the processing device to:

identify, in the pricing formula,

a price calculation operation to calculate a price from a price input variable,

a mathematical operation to calculate successive values of a changing value variable, and

a logical operation to conditionally perform an operation depending on a state of a logical operation input variable;

select, using a processing device, a converter node, a processing node, an ending node, and a decision node from a pre-stored library of generic nodes designed to be copied and assembled into a tree structure;

configure the converter node to store as parameters an initial input variable, the price input variable, and a unit conversion operation to convert the initial input variable to a unit of measurement compatible with the price input variable;

configure the processing node to store as parameters the changing value variable, changed values of the changing value variables, and the mathematical operation;

configure the decision node to store as parameters the logical function input variable and the logical operation;

configure the ending node to store as parameters the price input variable and the price calculation operation; and

link, through the processing device, each of the configured converter, processing, decision, and ending nodes to one of the other nodes to form the tree structure, an order of the linking establishing a sequence in which an operation stored in a parameter of a respective node is executed, wherein the price calculation operation is executed last in the sequence to generate a net price.

38. (New) The device of claim 37, wherein the stored instructions further cause the processing device to select a plurality of ending nodes storing a plurality of price calculation operations wherein each of the ending nodes are linked to different states of the logical operation input

variable to apply a different price calculation operation depending on the state of the logical operation input variable.

39. (New) The device of claim 37, wherein the unit conversion operation calculates an age of a file from an input variable specifying a creation date of the file.

40. (New) The device of claim 37, wherein the unit conversion operation scales an input variable.

41. (New) The device of claim 37, wherein the mathematical operation uses a current value of the changing value variable to calculate a new value of the changing value variable to replace the current value.

42. (New) The device of claim 42, wherein the current value of the changing value variable is saved as a prior value prior to replacing the current value with the new value.

43. (New) The device of claim 41, wherein both the current value and the prior value are used to calculate the new value.

44. (New) The device of claim 42, wherein the mathematical operation carries out an averaging of the changing value variable to calculate the new value.

45. (New) The device of claim 42, wherein the mathematical operation carries out an averaging using a prior value of the changing value variable to calculate the new value.